



## **BHSC NEWS**

### **February, 2008**

#### **ACGIH Carries Over Beryllium NIC for Another Year**

The ACGIH Notice of Intended Change for beryllium is being carried over for another year. There is no change in the proposed threshold limit value (TLV) apparently remains at 0.05 micrograms per cubic meter of air, and short term exposure limit (STEL) of 0.2 micrograms per cubic meter of air. Correspondence from ACGIH to BHSC chair Mike Brisson indicates that the TLV Committee did not have sufficient time to review all of the comments on the 2007 NIC prior to its fall meeting. Also, additional references are expected to be added to the documentation for the 2008 NIC. As has been the custom in recent years, the BHSC Technical Practices, Standards, and Measures Subcommittee will review the NIC and compile comments for individuals to submit to ACGIH (if they solicit comments). Comments must be submitted by July 31, 2008. For more information, contact David Weitzman, subcommittee chair, at 301-903-5401 or [david.weitzman@hq.doe.gov](mailto:david.weitzman@hq.doe.gov).

#### **Updated BHSC Web Site Soon Available**

The BHSC web site is being returned to its earlier address at [www.sandia.gov/BHSC](http://www.sandia.gov/BHSC), and is being updated to include features such as a calendar of events, BHSC white papers, and subcommittee pages. John McKenney and Melecita Archuleta are leading this effort. We should have more to say on this by early March.

#### **Update on White Papers in Progress**

- The Data Reporting Task Force is revising its white paper on guidelines for *optional* use of uncensored data in *limited* instances as a means of reducing sampling and analytical costs for scoping studies or other situations that do not require the use of accredited data (which cannot be uncensored). The sampling applications matrix that was part of the original DRTF white paper will now become a separate white paper under the Sampling Working Group. Both of these are expected to be presented at the April BHSC meeting.
- The Validation Working Group is working on a white paper that provides a review and summary of available guides and protocols for validation of analytical methods. For more information, contact Amy Ekechukwu at 803-725-1236 or [amy.ekechukwu@srnl.doe.gov](mailto:amy.ekechukwu@srnl.doe.gov).
- The Research Needs Subcommittee white paper on dermal sampling has recently completed a three-week BHSC review. Comments are now being reviewed by the Subcommittee. For more information, contact Mike McCawley at 304-292-1856 or [mccawley.mike@comcast.net](mailto:mccawley.mike@comcast.net).



- The Sampling and Analysis Subcommittee (SAS) white paper on wall deposits on samplers will be reviewed by the BHSC from Feb 1 to Feb 21. For more information, contact Melecita Archuleta at 505-845-9051 or [melarch@sandia.gov](mailto:melarch@sandia.gov).
- The SAS has also begun work on a white paper on interferences in measuring beryllium by ICP emission spectroscopy. The white paper will focus on what people should look for from their labs to be sure the labs are correcting properly for the interferences. This white paper should be presented at the November BHSC meeting.

### **Abstract Presentations Still Being Solicited**

The BHSC is still soliciting abstracts for fifteen-minute presentations at the April BHSC meeting. Abstracts are due **February 15, 2008**, to Mike Brisson at [mike.brisson@srs.gov](mailto:mike.brisson@srs.gov). Presentations on any of the following aspects of beryllium health and safety are welcome:

- Chronic Beryllium Disease (CBD) prevention (e.g., engineering controls, safe work practices)
- Communication of risk to beryllium affected workers, management, and the general public
- Training of field industrial hygienists and beryllium affected workers
- Epidemiological studies
- Medical, genetics, or toxicological topics
- Technical standards, practices, and measures
- Research needs and priorities
- Workplace or environmental sampling (including media, methods, and strategies)
- Reference materials
- Laboratory sample preparation
- Laboratory instrumentation
- Standardization and validation of analytical methods
- Field and laboratory accreditation

We particularly encourage presentations from those who have not presented to the BHSC previously. The agenda currently allows one hour for these presentations, but this can be adjusted based on how many we actually have.

### **February Conference Call Schedule (all times Eastern)**

Feb 5, noon, Validation Working Group (Amy Ekechukwu, [amy.ekechukwu@srnl.doe.gov](mailto:amy.ekechukwu@srnl.doe.gov))

Feb 5, 3 PM, Symposium Subcommittee (Amy Ekechukwu, [amy.ekechukwu@srnl.doe.gov](mailto:amy.ekechukwu@srnl.doe.gov))

Feb 7, noon, Be by Fluorescence Working Group (Anoop Agrawal, [aagrawal@qwest.net](mailto:aagrawal@qwest.net))

Feb 12, noon, Sampling and Analysis Subcommittee (Melecita Archuleta, [melarch@sandia.gov](mailto:melarch@sandia.gov))

Feb 13, noon, Data Reporting Task Force (open to DRTF members only)

Feb 14, 10 AM, ICP-MS working group, Mike Brisson, [mike.brisson@srs.gov](mailto:mike.brisson@srs.gov)



Feb 14, 3 PM, Research Needs/CBD Prevention Subcommittees, Mike McCawley ([mccawley.mike@comcast.net](mailto:mccawley.mike@comcast.net)) and Steve Jahn ([steven.jahn@srs.gov](mailto:steven.jahn@srs.gov))  
Feb 19, noon, BeO/Digestion working group, Tom Oatts, [oattstj@y12.doe.gov](mailto:oattstj@y12.doe.gov)  
Feb 19, 3 PM, Symposium Subcommittee (Amy Ekechukwu, [amy.ekechukwu@srnl.doe.gov](mailto:amy.ekechukwu@srnl.doe.gov))  
Feb 20, noon, BHSC Board, Mike Brisson, [mike.brisson@srs.gov](mailto:mike.brisson@srs.gov)  
Feb 20, 3 PM, Technical Practices Subcommittee, David Weitzman, [david.weitzman@hq.doe.gov](mailto:david.weitzman@hq.doe.gov)  
Feb 21, noon, Accreditation working group, Diana Decker, [ddecker@lanl.gov](mailto:ddecker@lanl.gov)  
Feb 26, noon, Sampling working group, Geoff Braybrooke, [geoffrey.braybrooke@apg.amedd.army.mil](mailto:geoffrey.braybrooke@apg.amedd.army.mil)  
Feb 27, noon, Data Reporting Task Force (open to DRTF members only)

### **Audio Conferencing for April BHSC Meeting**

In recognition of increasingly tight travel budgets for many, we are working on audio conferencing arrangements for portions of the spring BHSC meeting. This will include the morning of Wednesday, April 16, and the full day of Thursday, April 17. Audio conferencing for subcommittee breakouts will be at the discretion of each subcommittee chair. The level of phone participation for this meeting will determine whether we offer this feature for future meetings. Adherence to the meeting agenda will be key to making this successful.

### **Outline of Agenda for April BHSC Meeting**

Below is the current outline of the agenda for the spring BHSC meeting to be held at Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD. Additional details on hotels and other logistics will be provided by host Geoff Braybrooke in the near future. There is no charge for the meeting, but those planning to attend are asked to register by email with Mike Brisson at [mike.brisson@srs.gov](mailto:mike.brisson@srs.gov).

#### Tuesday, April 15

AM Board meeting  
PM JOWOG 30-1-1 (focus area: risk communication)

#### Wednesday, April 16 (full BHSC first day)

1.0 hr Invited presentation: Primer on genetics and toxicology (Lisa Maier, National Jewish)  
1.5 hr Roundtable #1: BeO Digestion/Extraction and Particle Size (proposed panelists: Tom Oatts, Anoop Agrawal, Charles Coleman, Mark Hoover, Aleks Stefaniak)  
0.5 hr Fluorescence Analyzer Automation (Anoop Agrawal)  
LUNCH  
0.5 hr Research Needs Priority List Update (Mike McCawley)



0.5 hr White Papers  
0.5 hr Reports (Board, BHSC Operations, etc.)  
Balance Subcommittee Breakouts

Thursday, April 17 (full BHSC second day)

1.5 hr Roundtable #2: Surface Sampling (proposed: Geoff Braybrooke, Steve Jahn, Kevin Ashley or Mike Brisson)  
1.5 hr Roundtable #3: Use of Uncensored Data (panelists TBD)  
LUNCH  
1.0 hr Abstract Presentations  
1.25 hr Updates: NAS Study  
10 CFR 850 Revisions  
ACGIH NIC  
AIHA AAB Interface  
Symposium  
1.25 hr Subcommittee reports, wrap-up

**Future BHSC Meetings**

April 15-17, 2008, Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD

April 15: Board and JOWOG

April 16-17: Main BHSC meeting

November 17-20, 2008, Albuquerque, NM

Nov 17 AM: Board and JOWOG

Nov 17 PM: Surface Sampling Tutorial

Nov 18-19: Third International Symposium on Beryllium Particulates and Their Detection

Nov 20: Main BHSC meeting

March 31-April 2, 2009, Savannah River Site, Aiken, SC

Mar 31: Board and JOWOG

Apr 1-2: Main BHSC meeting

Fall 2009: TBD

Spring 2010, U. K. Atomic Weapons Establishment Aldermaston, Reading, U.K.